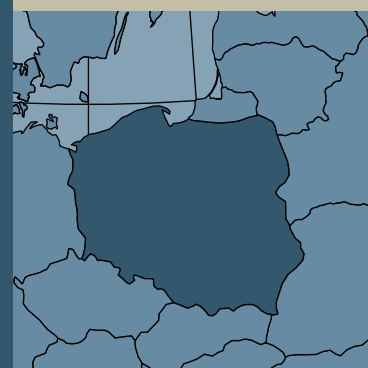


FINDING RECORDS OF YOUR ANCESTORS, PART A

POLAND

1808 TO 1900



Beginning Polish researchers will also need: *Genealogical Word List: Polish* (34098).

If your ancestor lived in Poland between 1808 and 1900, follow the steps in this booklet to find the records of his or her family. These instructions will show you which records to search, what to look for, and what tools to use. One piece of information will lead to another until you have identified each family member and filled out a family group record.

1

Find your ancestor's birth record in church records.

2

Find the birth records of your ancestor's brothers and sisters in church records.

3

Find the marriage record of your ancestor's parents in church records. This family is now complete.



HOW TO BEGIN—PREPARATION

You should have already gathered as much information as possible from your home and family and filled out family group records and a pedigree chart. You may have checked FamilySearch™ or other computer files to see if others have researched your Polish family.

To Begin:

A. From your pedigree chart, choose an ancestor who was born in Poland between 1808 and 1900. You must know the birth date and birthplace (parish) in order to find your ancestor's family.

B. Write your ancestor's name in the children's section of a new family group record. Read through the instructions in this booklet. Then follow the steps below to find your ancestor's family.

Tips:

If you don't know your ancestor's birth date or birthplace:

- If your ancestor immigrated to the United States, see *Tracing Immigrant Origins* (34111). This research outline suggests sources that may give your ancestor's specific place of origin. (See "Where to Find Publications" on page 17.)
- Start with a more recent generation. You will learn how to do research, and you will probably discover something you didn't know about your family.
- Find the records for the family in the example given. This will teach you basic research skills before you research your own family. This is a good class activity.

If you don't know the parish where your ancestor was born, see Tips on page 6.

Pedigree Chart

No. 1 on this chart is the same as no. _____ on chart no. _____

Mark boxes when ordinances are completed.

☐ Baptized
☐ Endowed
☐ Sealed to parents
☐ Sealed to spouse
☐ Family Group Record exists for this couple
☐ Children's ordinances completed

1. **Teresa Dąbrowska**
(Name)
When born _____
Where _____
When married _____
Where _____
When died _____
Where _____
(Spouse)
When born _____
Where _____
When married _____
Where _____
When died _____
Where _____

2. **Franciszek Dąbrowski**
(Father)
When born 10 Aug 1900
Where Witowąż, Lipno, Poland
When married _____
Where _____
When died _____
Where _____

3. **Jan Dąbrowski**
(Father of no. 2)
When born 28 Dec 1861
Where Witowąż, Lipno, Poland
When married _____
Where _____
When died _____
Where _____

4. **Antonina Pawłowska**
(Mother of no. 2)
When born _____
Where _____
When married _____
Where _____
When died about 1895
Where Witowąż, Lipno, Poland

5. **Antonina Pawłowska**
(Mother of no. 3)
When born _____
Where _____
When married _____
Where _____
When died _____
Where _____

6. **Franciszek Dąbrowski**
(Father of no. 3)
When born _____
Where _____
When married _____
Where _____
When died _____
Where _____

7. **Mother of no. 3**
When born _____
Where _____
When married _____
Where _____
When died _____
Where _____

8. **Father of no. 4**
When born _____
Where _____
When married _____
Where _____
When died _____
Where _____

9. **Mother of no. 4**
When born _____
Where _____
When married _____
Where _____
When died _____
Where _____

10. **Father of no. 5**
When born _____
Where _____
When married _____
Where _____
When died _____
Where _____

11. **Mother of no. 5**
When born _____
Where _____
When married _____
Where _____
When died _____
Where _____

12. **Father of no. 6**
When born _____
Where _____
When married _____
Where _____
When died _____
Where _____

13. **Mother of no. 6**
When born _____
Where _____
When married _____
Where _____
When died _____
Where _____

14. **Father of no. 7**
When born _____
Where _____
When married _____
Where _____
When died _____
Where _____

15. **Mother of no. 7**
When born _____
Where _____
When married _____
Where _____
When died _____
Where _____

Four names and address _____
Telephone number _____ Date prepared _____

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A. Marek's pedigree chart

Family Group Record

If typing, set spacing at 1 1/2 Page _____ of _____

Husband
(Given name) _____ Last name _____
Born (day month year) _____ Place _____ LDS ordinance dates _____ Temple _____
Christened _____ Place _____ Baptized _____
Died _____ Place _____ Endowed _____
Buried _____ Place _____ Sealed to parents _____
Married _____ Place _____ Sealed to spouse _____
Husband's father (Given name) _____ Last name _____
Husband's mother (Given name) _____ Last name _____
Deceased ☐ Deceased ☐ See "Other marriages" ☐

Wife
(Given name) _____ Last name _____
Born (day month year) _____ Place _____ LDS ordinance dates _____ Temple _____
Christened _____ Place _____ Baptized _____
Died _____ Place _____ Endowed _____
Buried _____ Place _____ Sealed to parents _____
Married _____ Place _____ Sealed to spouse _____
Wife's father (Given name) _____ Last name _____
Wife's mother (Given name) _____ Last name _____
Deceased ☐ Deceased ☐ See "Other marriages" ☐

Children List each child (whether living or dead) in order of birth. LDS ordinance dates _____ Temple _____

1. **Jan**
(Given name) _____ Last name _____
Born (day month year) 28 Dec 1861 Place Witowąż, Lipno, Poland Baptized _____
Christened _____ Place _____ Endowed _____
Died _____ Place _____ Sealed to parents _____
Spouse (Given name) _____ Last name _____
Married _____ Place _____ Sealed to spouse _____

2. **Antonina**
(Given name) _____ Last name _____
Born (day month year) _____ Place _____ Baptized _____
Christened _____ Place _____ Endowed _____
Died _____ Place _____ Sealed to parents _____
Spouse (Given name) _____ Last name _____
Married _____ Place _____ Sealed to spouse _____

3. **Franciszek**
(Given name) _____ Last name _____
Born (day month year) _____ Place _____ Baptized _____
Christened _____ Place _____ Endowed _____
Died _____ Place _____ Sealed to parents _____
Spouse (Given name) _____ Last name _____
Married _____ Place _____ Sealed to spouse _____

Select **only one** of the following options. The option you select applies to all names on this form.

☐ **Option 1—Family File** Send all names to my family file at the _____ Temple.

☐ **Option 2—Temple File** Send all names to any temple, and assign proxies for all approved ordinances.

☐ **Option 3—Ancestral File** Send all names to the computerized Ancestral File for research purposes only, not for ordinances. I am including the required pedigree chart.

Your name _____ Address _____
Phone () _____ Date prepared _____

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B. Marek begins a family group record with Jan Dąbrowski listed as a child

THE RESEARCH PROCESS

The following pages walk you through the research process. In the case study, Marek is looking for the family of Jan Dąbrowski from the area of Poland formerly governed by Russia, where records are different than in the Austrian and Prussian areas. He takes his family group records and

pedigree chart to a family history center. Here he looks in the Family History Library Catalog for the records he wants and orders the microfilms he needs. He makes several visits to the center. Follow these same steps to find your family.

THE RESEARCH PROCESS

Case study: Jan Dąbrowski, born in 1861 in the village of Witoważ in Czernikowo parish, Bydgoszcz province, Poland.

Your ancestor: _____, _____, in _____, _____, _____, _____, Poland.

name	birth date	village	parish	district	province
------	------------	---------	--------	----------	----------

FIND YOUR ANCESTOR'S BIRTH (CHRISTENING) RECORD IN CHURCH RECORDS.

(See "Church Records: Births" on pages 12–13.)

18

Witowaz Dziatę się w Komikowie dnia dwudziestego dziesiątego
#82. go grudnia tysiąc osiemset siedemdziesiątego pierwszego roku
o godzinie drugiej po południu. Stawę się: Maciej, Dąbrowa
ski wyrobnik w Witowazie ramieński lat dwadzie-
ścia, cetero mający, w osobności Andrzeja Brzostowicza
lat przedśmiat, ludzkiej Michała Kalinowskiego lat trzy-
dzieści mających obydwoch gospodarzy w Witowazie
ramieńskich i ożarali nam dziecię płci męskiej
urodzone w Witowazie dnia wczorajszego o godzinie
piórnazej w nocy z jego matką Ładwigę z Kadolec-
kich lat dwadzieścia trzy mającej; Dziecięcia temu
na chrzcie świętym przez podpuszanego o. d. s. d. b. z
tytu nadano zostało imię Jan, a rodzicami jego
chrzestnymi byli wspomniany Andrzej Brzostowicz
i Teresa Sawłowska. Akt ten stawajacemu i świadkom
przeczytany a gdy pisac nie umieją, przez nas tyl-
ko podpisany został. Akt Wiś. Pramypli Mammendaz
Cennoch. ubrympey Akt. Flam. Cyryng

A. At the family history center, Marek searches in the Family History Library Catalog for the parish in Poland that has his ancestors' birth records (Czernikowo parish). Then he looks for church records. (See "Using the Family History Library Catalog" on page 11.)

B. He finds the FHL film number 0812327 and orders it. Using the index of births at the end of each year in the record (available for many areas of Poland), Marek finds Jan's birth record on the film and photocopies the record for his files.

C. Marek writes on the family group record:
(1) Jan's birth information on the front
and (2) source information (such as parish
name, film number, volume and years
covered, and page number) on the back.

FIND BIRTH (CHRISTENING) RECORDS FOR YOUR ANCESTOR'S BROTHERS AND SISTERS IN CHURCH RECORDS.

(See “Church Records: Births” on pages 12–13.)

	Birth Recorded	Father	Birth Date	Mother	Child
81.	Witkowski	Przeto się u nasz gospodowie dnia dwudziestego drugiego Urbaniś Tytuś osiemset siedemdziesiątego trzeciego roku o godzinie piątej po południu Sta- niś ur. Małg Dobroski gospodarz lat dwudziestu pięć mający u Witkowi zamieszkały w obszarze Symona Urbanickiego gospodarza i dwówki lat osiemnastu pięć kawalerz Franciszka Dobroskiego gospodarza i Witkowi lat siedemnastu mający i ożeniat nam dany pól młotki ciwniarzajca kallow urzeczony jest u Witkowi dnia dwudziastego o godzinie trzeciej południowej z jego małżonką Jadwigą z Kasłakich lat dwudziestu pięć mają- cej - Dziśszym temu na chrzcie swiętym w dniu dzisiejszym pocier nasy podpirozego dobytym nadane zwabko imię <u>Stanisław</u> a podziemami jego chrzestniami byli wyżej wspomniany Symon Urbanicki i Anna Malinowska - Akt ten ciwniarzajca muy i świadkom niżej wymienionym pisarż dany tany i my był podpisalimy Ksiądz Antoni Proutycki Kommy Prokury Urbaniczajcy Aktu Adam Cywiński			

A. Now that he knows Jan's birth information, Marek looks for the birth record of Jan's younger brothers and sisters in records from around the same time period. In the Family History Library Catalog, Marek discovers that these birth records should be on the same film where he found Jan's birth (FHL film 0812327). He searches the indexes at the end of each year until he finds a brother, Stanisław.

B. Marek looks for other siblings, searching records from several years before and after Jan and Stanisław's births until he is certain he has found all of the family's children.

C. Since most Polish families had children every two to three years, Marek looks to see if any of the children's births are more than three years apart. If they were, he would recheck the records for those time periods where the gaps occur, or look in birth registers of neighboring parishes.

D. Marek writes on the family group record: (1) information from the birth record on the front and (2) source information on the back.

Family Group Record If typing, set spacing at 1 1/2. Page of

Write date as: 4 Oct. 1896

Write place as: Tryon, Polk, North Carolina, USA or St. Martins, Birmingham, Warwick, Eng.

Husband Given name(s) <i>Maciej</i>		Last name <i>Dąbrowski</i>		<input type="checkbox"/> See "Other marriages"	
Born (day month year) <i>about 1837</i>	Place <i>Witoważ, Lipno, Poland</i>	LDS ordinance dates		Temple	
Christened	Place	Baptized			
Died	Place	Endowed			
Buried	Place	Sealed to parents			
Married <i>21 Nov 1858</i>	Place <i>Witoważ, Lipno, Poland</i>	Sealed to spouse			
Husband's father Given name(s) <i>Franciszek</i>		Last name <i>Dąbrowski</i>		<input type="checkbox"/> Deceased	
Husband's mother Given name(s) <i>Julianna</i>		Maiden name		<input type="checkbox"/> Deceased	
Wife Given name(s) <i>Jadwiga</i>		Maiden name <i>Nadolecka</i>		<input type="checkbox"/> See "Other marriages"	
Born (day month year) <i>about 1837/1838</i>	Place	LDS ordinance dates		Temple	
Christened	Place	Baptized			
Died	Place	Endowed			
Buried	Place	Sealed to parents			
Wife's father Given name(s) <i>Franciszek</i>		Last name <i>Nadolecki</i>		<input type="checkbox"/> Deceased	
Wife's mother Given name(s) <i>Magdalena</i>		Maiden name <i>Zuzalska</i>		<input type="checkbox"/> Deceased	
Children List each child (whether living or dead) in order of birth.				LDS ordinance dates	
				Temple	
1	Sex <i>M</i>	Given name(s) <i>Jan</i>	Last name <i>Dąbrowski</i>		<input type="checkbox"/> See "Other marriages"
	Born (day month year) <i>28 Dec 1861</i>	Place <i>Witoważ, Lipno, Poland</i>	Baptized		
	Christened	Place	Endowed		
	Died	Place	Sealed to parents		
	Spouse Given name(s) <i>Antonina</i>	Last name <i>Pawłowska</i>			
	Married	Place	Sealed to spouse		
2	Sex <i>M</i>	Given name(s) <i>Stanisław</i>	Last name <i>Dąbrowski</i>		<input type="checkbox"/> See "Other marriages"
	Born (day month year) <i>25 Sep 1863</i>	Place <i>Witoważ, Lipno, Poland</i>	Baptized		
	Christened	Place	Endowed		
	Died	Place	Sealed to parents		
	Spouse Given name(s)	Last name			
	Married	Place	Sealed to spouse		
3	Sex	Given name(s)	Last name		<input type="checkbox"/> See "Other marriages"
	Born (day month year)	Place	Baptized		
	Christened	Place	Endowed		
	Died	Place	Sealed to parents		
	Spouse Given name(s)	Last name			
	Married	Place	Sealed to spouse		
Select only one of the following options. The option you select applies to all names on this form.					
<input type="checkbox"/> Option 1—Family File Send all names to my family file at the _____ Temple.					
<input type="checkbox"/> Option 2—Temple File Send all names to any temple, and assign proxies for all approved ordinances.					
<input type="checkbox"/> Option 3—Ancestral File Send all names to the computerized Ancestral File for research purposes only, not for ordinances. I am including the required pedigree chart.					
Your name					
Address					
Phone ()			Date prepared		

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Front of family group record

Sources of information Add further information on attached sheets as necessary.

1 Birth Record Jan Dąbrowski 1861—Czernikowo Catholic Parish FHL Film 0812327

2 Birth Record Stanisław Dąbrowski 1863—Czernikowo Catholic Parish FHL Film 0812327

3 Marriage Record of Maciej Dąbrowski 1858—Czernikowo Catholic Parish FHL Film 0812326

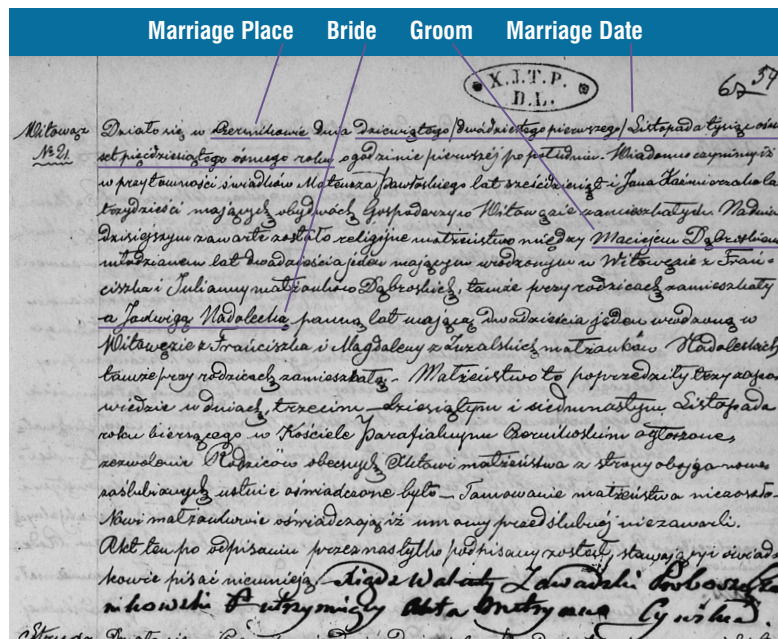
Note: Please take every reasonable step to see that the information on this form is as accurate and complete as practical. This will help maintain the integrity of Church family history files and reduce duplication of temple ordinance work.

Back of family group record

THE RESEARCH PROCESS

3 FIND THE MARRIAGE RECORD OF YOUR ANCESTOR'S PARENTS IN CHURCH RECORDS.

(See "Church Records: Marriage" on pages 14–15.)



A. Marek looks in the catalog for records of marriages performed where the oldest child (Jan) was born. He discovers that marriage records for Czernikowo parish are on FHL film 0812326 for the years 1841–1859 and on film 0812327 for 1860–1863. Since Jan was born in 1861, Marek chooses to search the film for 1860–1863 first.

B. Beginning with 1861, Marek searches earlier records until he finds the marriage. If he couldn't find it, then he would search earlier records. (If he couldn't find the marriage in this parish, he would try neighboring parishes.)

C. Marek finds the marriage of Jan's parents in the records for 1858. Because this is three years before Jan's birth, Marek wonders if he has missed the birth of another child. He rechecks Czernikowo's birth records, and records from nearby parishes but is unable to find any other children.

D. Marek writes on the family group record: (1) the marriage information on the front and (2) source information on the back.

E. Marek has the information he needs for this family.

NOW YOU CAN REPEAT STEPS 1 THROUGH 3 TO FIND ANOTHER FAMILY.

Look for the families of each of your ancestor's parents. Start with a new family group record, and look first for a birth record.

HELPS FOR FINDING RECORDS

Finding Places

To find records in the Family History Library Catalog and to search Polish church records, you will need to know the various levels of places in Poland.

Place Levels (Jurisdictions)

Village (*wieś/miasto*)

- Several small villages may be in a parish. Large cities may have several parishes.

Parish (*parafia*)

- The pastor of each parish kept the church records of birth, marriage, and death. You need to know the parish to find church records.

Community (*gmina*)

- This civil jurisdiction has records of a town and its many small surrounding villages.

District (*powiat*)

- Because districts changed very little, the district name can help you identify the correct village.

Province (*województwo*)

- This is the largest jurisdiction in the country and contains several districts.

In Family Group Records, places are usually written from smallest to largest:

Witoważ, Czernikowo, Bydgoszcz, Poland

(Village) (Parish) (Province) (Country)

In the 19th century, Poland was ruled by Prussia, Russia, and Austria. Poland's borders changed many times. For the researcher, this means:

- You must clearly identify a place by its name and time.
- Place-names may change often.
- Languages that the records were kept in change:
 - Prussian and Austrian areas kept records in German or Latin.
 - Russian areas kept records in Polish until 1868 and in Russian afterwards.
- Choose one of these two ways to write place-names:
 - Use current jurisdictions.
 - Use jurisdictions at the time of the event.

In the Family History Library Catalog, the place search:

- Usually lists places largest to smallest.
- Usually lists most Polish places according to 19th or 20th century boundaries.
- Lists church records under the parish.
- Is likely to list a city by several names and countries.
 - This city is listed twice, as:
 - Gdańsk, Poland
 - Danzig, Germany
 - This city is listed three times:
 - Lemberg, Galizien, Austria
 - Lwów, Lwów, Poland
 - L'viv, L'viv, Poland
 - However, former Russian parts of Poland are usually listed only under Poland: Warsaw, Poland.

Tips

To find your ancestor's parish (*parafia*), see the following gazetteers:

- For former Prussian areas of Poland, see *Gemeindelexikon für das Königreich Preußen* (in German), FHL book 943 E5kp v. 1-13.
- For former Austrian areas of Poland, see *Gemeindelexikon von Galizien* (Gazetteer of Galicia) (in German), FHL book 943.6 E5g 1900 v. 12; and *Gemeindelexikon von Schlesien* (Gazetteer of Silesia) (in German), FHL book 943.6 E5g 1900 v. 11; film 1187400.
- For the early Republic of Poland between 1918 and 1939, see *Skorowidz Miejscowości Rzeczypospolitej Polskiej* (Index of Localities of the Polish Republic) (in Polish), FHL book 943.8 E5sm; film 804242 items 3-6.
- For a gazetteer that includes modern Poland, and some areas that focus on Congress Poland, see *Słownik Geograficzny Królestwa Polskiego* (Geographical Dictionary of the Kingdom of Poland and Other Slavic Countries) (in Polish), FHL book 943.8 E5c v. 1, 15 volumes; film 920957-72.
- For the Russian Empire and areas which are no longer in Poland, see *Russisches Geographisches Namenbuch* (Russian Geographic Name Book) (in German), FHL book 947 E5r.

ENGLISH	POLISH	RUSSIAN	GERMAN	AUSTRIAN
village	wieś/miasto	selo	Ort	Ortschaft
parish	parafia	prikhod	Pfarrei	Pfarre
community	gmina	volost'	Gemeinde	Ortsgemeinde
district	powiat	uyezd	Kreis	Bezirkshauptmannschaft
province	województwo	guberniya	Provinz	Provinz

HELPS FOR FINDING RECORDS

Maps of Poland



*Province of Poland, 1967.
These boundaries have changed often.
District and parish boundaries
have been more stable.*



Bydgoszcz Province



*Czernikowo parish with
village of Witowąż*

HELPS FOR FINDING RECORDS

Provinces of Poland, 1999



Provinces (województwo) of Poland, 1999.

HELPS FOR FINDING RECORDS

Map of Poland, 1815–1918



Poland, 1815–1918

In areas controlled by Austria and Prussia, records are in German or Latin

In areas controlled by Russia, pre-1868 records are in Polish
post-1868 records are in Russian

Polish Boundaries:

Medieval Poland was a kingdom.

Late 1700s Poland was partitioned among Russia, Prussia, and Austria.

1815–1830 Kingdom of Poland or “Congress Poland.”

1918 Republic of Poland.

Records of Poland vary in content, format, and language for each of the different areas.

Poland, 1945–present

HELPS FOR FINDING RECORDS

Maps of Poland, 1921–1939



Independent Poland, 1921–1939.
 After World War II, the borders of Poland shifted west, taking parts of Pommern and Brandenburg and giving up parts of Grodno, Volhynia, and Vilna to Russia.



Provinces of Poland, 1921–1939.
 Eastern provinces later became part of the Russian Empire. These provinces are included in the 1934 gazetteer.

HELPS FOR FINDING RECORDS

Using the Family History Library Catalog • Using Microfilm

USING THE FAMILY HISTORY LIBRARY CATALOG

Use the Family History Library Catalog to find any record available from the Family History Library. In the catalog, you can find the call numbers you need to order records. The catalog is available at www.familysearch.org and at family history centers.

To find the information you need in the catalog, click **Library**, and then click **Family History Library Catalog**.

1. Click **Place Search**.

You will see:

Place

Part of (optional)

2. For the "Place," type: **the name of the parish**
3. For "Part of," type: **Poland**
4. Then find a topic, such as **Church Records**.
5. Click on the title you want.
6. Click on **View Film Notes**.
7. Look for the kind of record you want, such as *urodzenia* (births), for the years you want. Write the FHL film number, or print out the catalog entry.

For more help, see *Using the Family History Library Catalog* (30966).

Tips

To find Polish church records:

- Use the place search. Type the name of the parish, not the village.
- If you do not find records for a parish, look for spelling variations of the parish name.
- Ignore diacritics (accent marks) when typing place-names. For example, type *Wroclaw*, *Wroblew*, or *Wrotnow* without diacritics.

When you find a record in the catalog:

- Print the catalog page. It sometimes lists the order of the record types on the film.

USING MICROFILM

At this time, most of the Family History Library's records are on microfilm. When you have found and ordered the microfilm you need, the family history center staff can help you find a microfilm reader and thread the film into the machine.

Tips

When using the microfilm:

- If the image will not come into focus, make sure the film is between the two glass plates.
- Learn how to turn the handle to move the film backward and forward. Be careful not to roll the film off the reel.
- Make sure the years on the title page are the years you need. Three or four separate books may be on a single microfilm. If the first title page doesn't cover the years you want, quickly spin through the film to the next black space. Then look for the next title page and the years covered.

CHURCH RECORDS: CHURCH RECORDS: BIRTHS

(URODZENÍ) Late 1600s to Early 1900s

Use Birth Records To:

- Find birth or christening information for people who lived in Poland.
- Find parents' names.
- Verify the birthplace of an ancestor.

Content

- Child's name.
- Parents' names, occupation, and residence (which is also the child's birthplace).
- Godparents' names.
- Birth date—usually recorded in both the Julian and Gregorian calendars.
- Christening (baptism) date.
- Sometimes death information is in the margins of birth or christening records.

Tips

- Birth and christening information are often on the same record. Sometimes both dates are given, but on occasion only the christening date is given.
- Christening usually took place a few days after the birth.
- When records from Russian Poland give two dates, the first is from the Julian calendar and the second is from the Gregorian calendar (the calendar we use today).
- Write down the names and residences of the godparents. These may be relatives, friends, or important members of the community whose names may lead you to other relatives.
- Other church records give marriages, deaths, and burials.

- Dates are often written out (in Polish): "in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred fifty-six, the fifteenth of June."
- Many Polish church records are indexed at the end of each year.
- If the birth records you need are not available at the Family History Library, use the *Letter-Writing Guide: Polish* to write to the parish where the birth occurred. (See "Where to Find Publications" on page 17.)

Searching Birth Records

Before searching, you must know:

- Your ancestor's name.
- The parish and district of birth or residence.
- The approximate birth date.

Located at:

- Family History Library or family history centers
- Polish state, church, and regional archives
- Polish parishes

Family History Library Catalog:

Place search:

Place

Part of

Topics to choose: Church Records

Search by:

1. Date (year, day, month), from earliest to most recent.

Witowąż. Priato się w uści Czernikowie dnia dwudziestego siódmego Urbisnia Tyjaż
 81. o smółt przedwziętego trzeciego roku o godzinie pierwszej po południu Sta-
 uł się Maciej Dąbrowski gospodarz lat dwadzieścia pięć mający w Witowążu
 zamiarłaty w obecności Szymona Urbanickiego gospodarza z Ossówki lat
 czterdziści pięć tudzież Franciszka Dąbrowskiego gospodarza z Witowąża lat
 sześćdziesiąt mających i okazał nam dwojga syna młodszy oświadczając iż
 kłowe urodzone jest w Witowążu dnia poprzedniego o godzinie trzeciej po
 południu z jego matronki Jadwigi z Nadoleckich lat dwadzieścia pięć mają-
 cej. Prześliśmy temu na chrzcie świętym w dniu dzisiejszym
 pover nim podpisano odbyłym nadane zostało imię Stanisław
 a rodzicami jego chrzestnymi byli wyżej wspomiany Szymon
 Urbanicki i Anna Malinowska. Akt ten oświadczają-
 mu i świadkom nieumiejącym pisać odczytany i był
 podpisany przez Sławni Antoniego Pawłowskiego
 Wkraymującemu Akta Młemu Cywilnego

Witowąż 81.

It took place in the village of Czernikowo on September 27th of the year one thousand eight hundred sixty-three, at one o'clock afternoon. Presented himself Maciej Dąbrowski, farmer, 25 years old, residing in Witowąż, in the presence of Szymon Urbanicki, farmer from Ossówka, 45 years old, and Franciszek Dąbrowski, farmer from Witowąż, 60 years old, and presented to us a male child stating that he was born in Witowąż on the day before yesterday, at three o'clock past midnight, by his wife Jadwiga née Nadolecka, 25 years old. To this child, on the holy christening performed today, by the signed below, was given the name Stanisław, and his godparents were the above mentioned Szymon Urbanicki and Anna Malinowska. This document was read to the one who presented himself, as well as to the witnesses, who didn't know how to write, and it was signed only by us. Priest Antoni Pawłowski clergyman in charge of Czernikowo keeping the Civil Vital Records.

1863 Birth record of Stanisław Dąbrowski (FHL film 0812327)

CHURCH RECORDS: MARRIAGE (MAŁŻEŃSTWA)

Late 1600s to Early 1900s

Use Marriage Records To:

- Find a couple's marriage date and place and their ages.
- Find witnesses, who may be family members.
- Determine the bride and groom's previous marital status (single, widowed, divorced).

Content

- Groom's name, age, occupation, residence, and birthplace
- Bride's name, age, occupation, residence, and birthplace
- Parents' names and their residence
- Witnesses and their residence
- Marriage date, using both Julian and Gregorian calendars

Tips

- To find a marriage record, look in the following parishes in the order given:
 - Parish where the first child was born.
 - The bride's home parish.
 - The groom's home parish.
 - The parishes of the witnesses listed in the children's birth records.
- Marriage records may be in a separate book (especially in large cities) or in the same book as the baptism and death and burial records.
- When records from Russian Poland give two dates, the first is from the Julian calendar, and the second is from the Gregorian calendar (the calendar we use today).

- Many church records are indexed at the end of each year.
- If the marriage records you need are not available at the Family History Library, use the *Letter-Writing Guide: Polish* to write to the parish where the marriage occurred. (See "Where to Find Publications" on page 17.)

Searching Marriage Records

Before searching, you must know:

- The names of the bride and groom.
- The approximate birth date of the first child.
- The parish of residence.

Located at:

- Family History Library or family history centers
- Polish state, church, and regional archives
- Polish parishes

Family History Library Catalog:

Place search:

Place

Part of

Topics to choose: Church Records

Search for:

1. The parish.
2. The couple's names (in the index, if available; the index will give either an entry number or a page number).
3. The date, from earliest to most recent.

READING POLISH RECORDS • SUMMARY

READING POLISH RECORDS

Even if you know Polish, reading the old style Polish script is one of the most challenging tasks for the beginning researcher. It may seem overwhelming at first, but you will find that although each scribe used a slight variation of the old style script, they were all quite consistent in their writing.

You will also find that after learning the most common given names and a few common terms, you will be able to read most of the documents you encounter.

Each area of Poland, including former Russian, Austrian, and Prussian areas, had its own consistent format for recording information. Studying the format will make it easier to find the records you need.

Written Polish uses several letters not found in English: *ą, ć, ę, ł, ń, ó, ś, ź, and ż*. The letters *q* and *v* are used only in words of foreign origin. Polish dictionaries and indexes use the following alphabetical order: *a q b c ć d e ę f g h i j k l ł m n ń o ó p r s ś t u w x y z ź ż*.

Tips

- For help reading the Polish language, see *Genealogical Word List: Polish*. (See “Where to Find Publications” on page 17.)
- Be aware that Polish given names have various grammatical case endings. For example, in the statement *Józef syn Antona i Anny z Nowaków Grabowskich*, the *a* at the end of *Anton*, the *y* at the end of *Anna*, the *ów* at the end of *Nowak*, and the *ch* at the end of *Grabowski*, are all case endings and are not part of the name.

The other words in the phrase are connecting words: *syn*=son, *i*=and, *z*=from

- Learn to recognize Polish names. About a dozen male and female names are used repeatedly.

SUMMARY: FINDING A POLISH FAMILY, 1808–1900

For detailed steps, see “The Research Process” on pages 2–5.

1. Find your ancestor’s birth record in church records.
 - This verifies what you know.
 - Write down what you find, and record your source information.
2. Find birth records for your ancestor’s brothers and sisters in church records.
 - Using estimated birth years from around the time of your ancestor’s birth date, look for birth records of your ancestor’s siblings.
 - Write down the information you find and your source information.
3. Find the marriage record of your ancestor’s parents in church records.
 - Look for records of marriages in the parish where the oldest child was born.
 - Start with the date of the first child’s birth, and search earlier and later records until you find the marriage.
 - Write down what you find, and record your source information.

Then follow the same steps to find a parent’s family.

ADDITIONAL HELPS

Time Line

- 1563 The Roman Catholic Council of Trent required Catholic parishes throughout Europe to record baptisms and marriages. Only a few Polish parishes complied until the 1590s.
- 1582 The Gregorian calendar was introduced.
- 1614 Another church proclamation repeated the order to keep church books and asked parishes to maintain death registers. Many more parishes complied.
- 1618–1648 During the Thirty Years War, many records were destroyed, and many families moved.
- 1772 The first partition of Poland divided parts of Polish territory between Austria, Prussia, and Russia, resulting in differences in record-keeping styles.
- 1784 The Austrian Empire began requiring civil transcripts of church records.
- 1793 The second partition of Poland divided parts of Polish territory between Prussia and Russia.
- 1795 The third partition of Poland divided the remaining Polish territory between Austria, Prussia, and Russia.
- 1804–1808 Introduction of civil transcripts of church records in Prussian areas.
- 1807 Duchy of Warsaw was established under jurisdiction of Napoleon's French Empire. It was expanded to the Grand Duchy of Warsaw in 1809.
- 1808 Napoleon introduced civil registration of births, marriages, and deaths in the Duchy of Warsaw. These records were written in Polish. Catholic clergy were responsible for making transcripts of their church records for the state and keeping records of Protestants and Jews.
- 1815 The Congress of Vienna distributed territories after the defeat of Napoleon. The borders between Russian, Prussian, and Austrian holdings in Poland were realigned. Most of the Duchy of Warsaw was given to Russia and called "Congress Poland" or the Kingdom of Poland. Napoleonic-style civil registration continued.
- 1826 Protestants and Jews in the Kingdom of Poland started civil transcripts.

- 1830s Protestants and Jews in Austria, including the Polish area of Galicia, were allowed to keep their own civil transcripts of vital records.
- 1868 Russian law required that civil transcripts throughout Congress Poland be in the Russian language.
- 1918 The Republic of Poland was created, reuniting Polish territory. Vital record keeping began to be standardized.

More about Polish Research:

- Naczelną Dyrekcja Archiwów Państwowych, *Księgi metrykalne i stanu cywilnego* (Metrical and Civil Registration Books) (in Polish). 2000. FHL book 943.8 J53k.
- Miriam Weiner, *Jewish Roots in Poland: Pages from the Past and Archival Inventories*. 1999. FHL book 943.8 F2wm.
- *Oficjalny Spis Poczтовых Numerów Adresowych* (Postal Guide for Poland) (in Polish). 1993. FHL book 943.8 E80 1993.

Archives and Libraries

Family History Centers

<http://www.familysearch.org>
Tel. 800-346-6044

Family History Library

35 North West Temple Street
Salt Lake City, UT 84150-3400
Tel. 801-240-2331

Polish State Archive

Ul. Długa 6, skr. poczt. 1005
00-950 Warszawa
Poland
Fax. 011-48-22-31-75-63

Where to Find Publications:

- Internet: <http://familysearch.org>
- Family Search Wiki: <http://wiki.familysearch.org>
- Salt Lake Distribution Services:
phone 801-240-3800

All Family History Library publications are described in:
Family History Materials List (34083).

Family Group Record

If typing, set spacing at 1 1/2. Page _____ of _____

Write date as: 4 Oct. 1896

Write place as: Tryon, Polk, North Carolina, USA or
St. Martins, Birmingham, Warwick, Eng.

Husband			Last name <input type="checkbox"/> See "Other marriages"	
Given name(s)				
Born (day month year)	Place	LDS ordinance dates		Temple
Christened	Place	Baptized		
Died	Place	Endowed		
Buried	Place	Sealed to parents		
Married	Place	Sealed to spouse		
Husband's father Given name(s)		Last name <input type="checkbox"/> Deceased		
Husband's mother Given name(s)		Maiden name <input type="checkbox"/> Deceased		
Wife			Maiden name <input type="checkbox"/> See "Other marriages"	
Given name(s)				
Born (day month year)	Place	LDS ordinance dates		Temple
Christened	Place	Baptized		
Died	Place	Endowed		
Buried	Place	Sealed to parents		
Wife's father Given name(s)		Last name <input type="checkbox"/> Deceased		
Wife's mother Given name(s)		Maiden name <input type="checkbox"/> Deceased		
Children List each child (whether living or dead) in order of birth.			LDS ordinance dates	Temple
1	Sex	Given name(s)	Last name <input type="checkbox"/> See "Other marriages"	
	Born (day month year)	Place	Baptized	
	Christened	Place	Endowed	
	Died	Place	Sealed to parents	
	Spouse Given name(s)	Last name		
	Married	Place	Sealed to spouse	
2	Sex	Given name(s)	Last name <input type="checkbox"/> See "Other marriages"	
	Born (day month year)	Place	Baptized	
	Christened	Place	Endowed	
	Died	Place	Sealed to parents	
	Spouse Given name(s)	Last name		
	Married	Place	Sealed to spouse	
3	Sex	Given name(s)	Last name <input type="checkbox"/> See "Other marriages"	
	Born (day month year)	Place	Baptized	
	Christened	Place	Endowed	
	Died	Place	Sealed to parents	
	Spouse Given name(s)	Last name		
	Married	Place	Sealed to spouse	
Select only one of the following options. The option you select applies to all names on this form. <input type="checkbox"/> Option 1—Family File Send all names to my family file at the _____ Temple. <input type="checkbox"/> Option 2—Temple File Send all names to any temple, and assign proxies for all approved ordinances. <input type="checkbox"/> Option 3—Ancestral File Send all names to the computerized Ancestral File for research purposes only, not for ordinances. I am including the required pedigree chart.			Your name Address Phone () Date prepared	

Note: Please take every reasonable step to see that the information on this form is as accurate and complete as practical. This will help maintain the integrity of Church family history files and reduce duplication of temple ordinance work.

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map of Poland, counties	5	villages	4

Other publications you will need:

Genealogical Word List: Polish (34098)

Letter-Writing Guide: Poland (36339)

Using the Family History Library Catalog (30966)

Please send suggestions to:

Publications Coordination
Family History Library
35 North West Temple Street
Salt Lake City, UT 84150 USA
Fax: 801-240-5551

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